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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/791,670	03/03/2004	Susumu Hoshino	053848-5019	2715

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EXAMINER

ROSE, ROBERT A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3723

DATE MAILED: 07/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/791,670

Applicant(s)

HOSHINO ET AL

Examiner

Robert Rose

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 April 2005.
2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) 7-30 and 33-37 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 31 and 32 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Group I(Claims 1-6, and 31-32) in the reply filed on April 25, 2005, is acknowledged.
2. Claims 7-30, and 33-37 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on April 25, 2005.
3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
4. Claims 1-6, and 31-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In claims 1-6 the use of the phrase "the above mentioned..." is deemed vague and indefinite. The phrase "said..." should be used in it's place. In addition, claims 31-32 are indefinite for reciting a single step method.
5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
6. Claims 1-3, and 31-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by IBM Research Bulletin No. 32227(February 1991). The technical disclosure bulletin from IBM discloses a method and apparatus for dressing a

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semiconductor wafer comprising all of the subject matter set forth in Applicant's claims above. Note the use of a substantially rectangular dressing bar(B) in conjunction with the dressing of an annular or doughnut shaped polishing pad. Note that the rectangular dressing surface is oriented with it's centerline along the radial direction of the annular or doughnut shaped polishing pad.

7. Claims 1-3, and 31-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being clearly anticipated by Boyd et al . Boyd et al discloses a method and apparatus for dressing a semiconductor wafer comprising all of the subject matter set forth in Applicant's claims above. Note the use of a substantially rectangular dressing bar(B) in conjunction with the dressing of an annular or doughnut shaped polishing pad. Note figures 5-6 which show a rectangular dressing surface oriented with it's centerline along the radial direction of the annular or doughnut shaped polishing pad.

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over IBM Research Bulletin No. 32227 or Boyd et al, in view of Hakomori et al. Hakomori et al disclose the simultaneous use of plural dressing devices to simultaneously dress the surface of a polishing pad. To simply provide additional carrier heads and plural dressing devices in the apparatus of either IBM(32227) each for dressing the pad

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immediately adjacent to each carrier, for greater productivity, would have been obvious in view of Hakomori et al.

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Manfredi et al is cited of interest to show a dressing device comprising a wedge shaped dressing surface.

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Robert Rose at telephone number (571) 272-4494.

Robert Rose
Primary Examiner
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Rose', is positioned below the printed name and title.

Rr

July 6, 2005.